



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

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In re Application of:)
John S. FORMON et al.)
Serial No.: 10/092,350)
Filed: March 7, 2002)
For: APPARATUS AND METHODS USABLE IN)
CONNECTION WITH DISPENSING FLEXIBLE)
SHEET MATERIAL FROM A ROLL)

Group Art Unit: 3653
Examiner: TBA
Attorney Docket No. 000242.00105

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The Honorable Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the attention of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed in the attached Form PTO/SB/08A. Copies of the listed references are enclosed.

Applicants submit these references so that the Patent and Trademark Office may determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the listed references be formally considered during the prosecution of this application, be made of record herein, and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue herefrom.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3), applicants note that non-English language reference DE 334 29 21 is of record in cited commonly owned U.S. Patents Nos. 6,412,679 and 6,419,136. Non-English language references FR 2583729 A1 and FR 2771620 A1 were recently cited in a European search report issued in an application corresponding to below-referenced application Serial No. 09/435,718.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, and without waiver of confidentiality, applicants hereby advise the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) of the following co-pending commonly owned divisionals of the present application:

Serial No. 10/211,280 entitled "Apparatus and Methods Usable In Connection With Dispensing Flexible Sheet Material From A Roll," filed August 5, 2002 (Attorney Docket No. 000242.00135).

Serial No. 10/211,334 entitled "Apparatus and Methods Usable In Connection With Dispensing Flexible Sheet Material From A Roll," filed August 5, 2002 (Attorney Docket No. 000242.00136);

Serial No. 10/211,333 entitled "Apparatus and Methods Usable In Connection With Dispensing Flexible Sheet Material From A Roll," filed August 5, 2002 (Attorney Docket No. 000242.00137); and

Serial No. 10/211,301 entitled "Apparatus and Methods Usable In Connection With Dispensing Flexible Sheet Material From A Roll," filed August 5, 2002 (Attorney Docket No. 000242.00138).

The above divisional applications are substantively identical to each other and the present parent application, except for the claims. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a), a copy of the claims of each of the above applications is enclosed.

Without waiver of confidentiality, the attention of the USPTO is also directed to the following co-pending commonly assigned applications, which are directed to related subject matter:

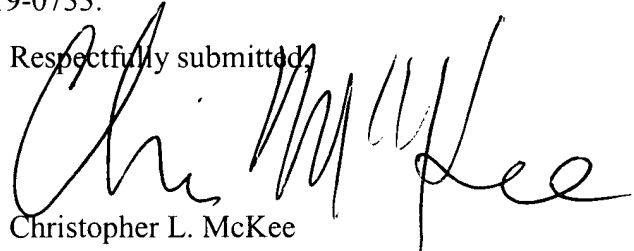
Serial No. 09/435,718 entitled "Web Transfer Mechanism For Flexible Sheet Dispenser," filed November 8, 1999 (Attorney Docket No.: 000242.81029).

Serial No. 09/604,811 entitled "Paper Towel Dispenser With Powered Transfer Mechanism," filed June 28, 2000 (Attorney Docket No.: 000242.81271) (allowed July 25, 2002).

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a), a copy of the specification, including the claims, and drawings for each of the above two applications is included herewith. Also, a set of the claims as allowed in listed application Serial No. 09/604,811 is enclosed.

No fee is believed to be necessary, as this IDS is being filed prior to the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits. However, in the event a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the fee to our deposit account number 19-0733.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris McKee", written over the typed name.

Christopher L. McKee
Registration No. 32,384

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.
1001 G Street, N.W., 11th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20001-4597
(202) 508-9100

Date: October 9, 2002

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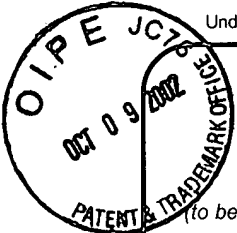
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TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)		Application Number	10/092,350
		Filing Date	March 7, 2002
		First Named Inventor	John S. Formon
		Group Art Unit	3653
		Examiner Name	TBA
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	1216	Attorney Docket Number	000242.00105

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Response <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) and Accompanying Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PTO/SB/08A • Copy of claims from each co-divisional application
Remarks <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 100px; width: 100%;"></div>		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	Christopher L. McKee, Reg. No. 321384
Signature	
Date	October 9, 2002

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this date: 		
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Signature		Date

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)			Complete if Known		
			Application Number	10/092,350	
			Filing Date	March 7, 2002	
			First Named Inventor	John S. Formon	
			Group Art Unit	3653	
			Examiner Name	TBA	
Sheet	1	of	5	Attorney Docket Number	000242.00105

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 2,193,759	03-12-1940	Birr	
		US- 2,839,345	06-17-1958	Engel et al.	
		US- 2,859,814	11-11-1958	Berney	
		US- 2,930,663	03-29-1960	Weiss	
		US- 3,007,650	11-07-1961	Burton	
		US- 3,269,592	08-30-1966	Slye	
		US- 3,288,387	11-29-1966	Craven, Jr.	
		US- 3,384,280	05-21-1968	Summersby	
		US- 3,628,743	12-21-1971	Bastian	
		US- 3,635,417	01-18-1972	Kajiwara et al.	
		US- 3,730,409	05-01-1973	Ratti	
		US- 3,850,356	11-26-1974	Abe et al.	
		US- 3,858,951	01-07-1975	Rasmussen	
		US- 3,917,191	11-04-1975	Graham, Jr. et al.	
		US- 4,099,118	07-04-1978	Franklin et al.	
		US- 4,106,684	08-15-1978	Hartbauer et al.	
		US- 4,148,442	04-10-1979	Baumann et al.	
		US- 4,159,807	07-03-1979	Honsel et al.	
		US- 4,165,138	08-21-1979	Hedge et al.	
		US- 4,267,752	05-19-1981	Byrt et al.	

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
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		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		DE 3342921 A1	06-05-1985			
		EP 0 459 050 A1	04-12-1991	Steiner Company, Inc.		
		GB 2267271 A	01-12-1993	Fort Howard Corporation		
		FR 2583729 A1	12-26-1986	Maurice Granger		
		FR 2771620 A1	04-06-1999	Maurice Granger		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.
³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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PTO/SB/08A (10-01)
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			Application Number	10/092,350	
			Filing Date	March 7, 2002	
			First Named Inventor	John S. Formon	
			Group Art Unit	3653	
			Examiner Name	TBA	
			Attorney Docket Number	000242.00105	
Sheet	2	of	5		

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		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 4,358,169	11-09-1982	Filipowicz et al.	
		US- 4,378,912	04-05-1983	Perrin et al.	
		US- 4,464,622	07-07-1984	Franklin	
		US- 4,569,467	02-11-1986	Kaminstein	
		US- 4,611,768	09-16-1986	Voss et al.	
		US- 4,666,099	05-19-1987	Hoffman et al.	
		US- 4,712,461	12-15-1987	Rasmussen	
		US- 4,721,265	01-26-1988	Hawkins	
		US- 4,738,176	04-19-1988	Cassia	
		US- 4,756,485	07-12-1988	Bastian et al.	
		US- 4,786,005	11-22-1988	Hoffman et al.	
		US- 4,790,490	12-13-1988	Chakravorty	
		US- 4,796,825	01-10-1989	Hawkins	
		US- 4,807,824	02-28-1989	Gains et al.	
		US- 4,823,663	04-25-1989	Hamlin	
		US- 4,826,262	05-02-1989	Hartman et al.	
		US- 4,846,412	07-11-1989	Morand	
		US- 4,960,248	10-02-1990	Bauer et al.	
		US- 5,031,258	07-16-1991	Shaw	
		US- 5,205,454	04-27-1993	Schutz et al.	

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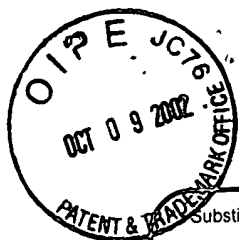
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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Sheet 3 of 5

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/092,350
Filing Date	March 7, 2002
First Named Inventor	John S. Formon
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		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 5,217,035	06-08-1993	Van Marcke	
		US- 5,235,882	08-17-1993	Rabourn	
		US- 5,244,161	09-14-1993	Wirtz-Odenthal	
		US- 5,257,711	11-02-1993	Wirtz-Odenthal	
		US- 5,271,574	12-21-1993	Formon et al.	
		US- 5,294,192	03-15-1994	Omdoll et al.	
		US- 5,299,407	04-05-1994	Schuttler et al.	
		US- 5,302,167	04-12-1994	Kley et al.	
		US- 5,335,811	08-09-1994	Morand	
		US- 5,365,783	11-22-1994	Zweifel	
		US- 5,400,982	03-28-1995	Collins	
		US- 5,452,832	09-26-1995	Niada	
		US- 5,505,129	04-09-1996	Greb et al.	
		US- 5,511,743	04-30-1996	Kozlowsky et al.	
		US- 5,526,973	06-18-1996	Boone et al.	
		US- 5,553,522	09-10-1996	Boldrini et al.	
		US- 5,558,302	09-24-1996	Jespersion	
		US- 5,604,992	02-25-1997	Robinson	
		US- 5,625,327	04-29-1997	Carroll et al.	
		US- 5,630,526	05-20-1997	Moody	
		US- 5,694,653	12-09-1997	Harald	

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